REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the time taken by the Examiner to review Applicant's present application. This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed August 4, 2009. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Claims Status

Claims 1-5, 10-11, 16-20, 23, 31-35, and 38 were pending. Claims 1-5, 10-11, 16-20, 23, 31-35 and 38 were rejected. Claims 1-5, 10, 16-20, 31-35 and 38 are amended herein. Support for the amendments may be found at least in paragraphs 11, 37-38, 41, 43, 49-55, 57, 64-65, 67-69, 71-79, 81-83 and 85-93. No new matter is added. Thus, by this amendment, claims 1-5, 10-11, 16-20, 23, 31-35, and 38 remain pending.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 31-35 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 31-35 and 38 are amended herein. Accordingly, Applicant believes the rejection is now moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5, 10-11, 16-20, 23, 31-35 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over "*UML Data Modeling Profile*" ("Gornik") in view of "*A UML Profile for Enterprise Distributed Object Computing – Joint Final Submission – Component Collaboration Architecture*" ("CCA"). The rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 16 and 31 contain similar language as claim 1. Accordingly, traversal of the rejection will be collectively addressed as it pertains to claim 1.

Embodiments disclosed by Applicant may be used to represent an arbitrarily complex environment using a model computer, a database computer, and a database connectivity computer. Components may be used to represent physical or logical entities from the arbitrarily complex environment. Relationships may represent the associations and dependencies between two or more components.

Embodiments disclosed by Applicant may include a method of modeling an arbitrarily complex environment, including providing a system comprising a model computer for defining a data model having a plurality of types of data structures, a database computer for storing a table schema in a static database, a providing a database connectivity computer for instantiating components from the plurality of types of data structures to represent entities in the arbitrarily complex environment. The plurality of data structures includes components for representing logical or physical entities in the environment, relationship data structures for representing associations or dependencies between entities, property data structures for defining the attributes of a component or relationship, and checks, wherein each type of data structure has one or more fields. The database has a table for each type of data structure. The components, relationships, properties, and checks associated with the arbitrarily complex environment may be instantiated and assigned values to one or more fields in a table to model the arbitrarily complex environment. For example, to model a server computer in an IT environment, a component may be instantiated from a generic computer component type with an ID field, a name field, and contain property fields contained in a parent computer component type. By assigning a name and ID to the fields, the instantiated component can be identified. Assigning values to a property field associates attributes with the entity being represented. The values assigned to each component, relationship, property and check may be stored in tables in a database. To change any individual component or relationship, only the value stored in the database needs to be changed such that the data model and underlying schema are not altered. To alter the data model, the generic component type may be altered. For example, a field may need to be added, deleted or changed to accommodate a change in the modeling of the arbitrarily complex environment. The database computer is configured to associate an added or altered field with one or more tables and the database connectivity computer is configured to associate a third value with the one or more tables such that future components, relationships, properties and checks will be instantiated having the altered data structure.

In the rejection, the Examiner states that Gornik and CCA teach or suggest a method for modeling an arbitrarily complex environment. Applicant submits that the description provided by Gornik is drawn to an approach that requires manual changes to the table schema when a change is made to the environment being modeled. For example, Gornik teaches that a table schema may allow a database administrator and an analyst to recognize dependencies in the system, and that the data model allows for tuning, which Gornik says is always a manual

process. (See, Gornik, page 5.) Regarding CCA, the description provided by CCA teaches a recursive component architecture in which components may be assembled into processes. (See, CCA, page 14.)

In contrast, embodiments disclosed by Applicant allow changes to be made to the property fields of a component or relationship and the system is able to check the status of a property or relationship and update the database accordingly, thus reducing the need for manual processes. For at least the reasons above, Applicant respectfully submits that the teachings of Gornik and CCA, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest a method for modeling an arbitrarily complex environment as disclosed by Applicant. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. Other than as explicitly set forth above, this reply does not include an acquiescence to statements, assertions, assumptions, conclusions, or any combination thereof in the Office Action. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of Claims 1-5, 10-11, 16-20, 23, 31-35, and 38. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below for prompt action in the event any issues remain.

The Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-3183 of Sprinkle IP Law Group.

Respectfully submitted,

Sprinkle IP Law Group
Attorneys for Applicant

Ari G. Akmal
Reg. No. 51,388

Date: 11-4- 2009

1301 W. 25th Street, Suite 408
Austin, TX 78705
Tel. (512) 637-9220
Fax. (512) 371-9088